

Message Text

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ACTION VO-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00

CPR-01 SCA-01 L-02 USIA-04 EB-03 SCI-03 SY-02 DODE-00

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P R 101319Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3297

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS UR PFOR BTRA

SUBJ: VISAS RECIPROCITY: NIV CATEGORIES

REF: A) MOSCOW 15285; B) MOSCOW 15213; C) STATE 211674;
D) STATE 218868

1. SUMMARY: DURING OCT 9 MEETING WITH AMEMBASSY CONSOFFS (REF A), MFA CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION CHIEF I.I. IPPOLITOV COMPLAINED THAT AMEMBASSY OFTEN ISSUES B-1 IVSAS TO GOVERNMENT MINISTERS AND CAREER MFA OFFICIALS WHO SHOULD, BY VIRTUE OF THEIR POSITIONS, ALWAYS RECEIVE DIPLOMATIC A VISAS. IPPOLITOV SAID SOVEMBASSY ALWAYS ISSUES FULLLDIPLOMATIC VISAS TO COMPARABLE AMERICANS, AND U.S. IS NOT ACCORDING RECIPROCITY. END SUMMARY.

2. IPPOLITOV SPECIFICALLY CITED EMBASSY'S RECENT ISSUANCE OF ORDINARY B-1 VISA TO K.N. BELYAK, SOVIET MINISTER OF MACHINE BUILDING FOR CATTLE BREEDING AND FORAGE PRODUCTION, WHO WAS ALLEGEDLY DELAYED AT DULLES AIRPORT UPON ARRIVAL FOR COMMERCIAL VISIT. (AS REPORTED REF B, MFA HAD RAISED MATTER WITH AMBASSADOR OCT. 8.) IPPOLITOV SAID ALL MINISTERS AND DEPUTY MINISTERS OF GOVERNMENTS OF USSR AND ALL SOVIET REPUBLICS SHOULD ALWAYS BE ACCORDED FULL DIPLOMATIC VISAS. UNDER U.S. SYSTEM THEY SHOULD ALWAYS RECEIVE DIPLOMATIC A, G OR C-3 VISAS, AND NOT
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DIPLOMATIC B-1 VISAS, REGARDLESS OF PURPOSE OF VISIT.. CONSOFFS

ASKED APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF MINISTERS AND DEPUTY MINISTERS IN SOVIET AND REPUBLIC GOVERNMENTS, AND IPPOLITOV ESTIMATED ONE THOUSAND. LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED WOULD GO TO U.S. IN ANY ONE YEAR, HE ASSURED CONSOFFS.

3. IPPOLITOV ALSO COMPLAINED THAT EMBASSY ISSUED B-1 VISA TO P.P. SEVOSTYANOV, DEPUTY CHIEF OF MFA DIPLOMATIC HISTORY ADMINISTRATION, TO ATTEND MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARCHIVES IN NEW YORK (REF D).

4. CONSOFFS EXPLAINED THAT U.S. VISA CATEGORIES, AND DISTINCTION BETWEEN A AND B CATEGORIES, ARE BASED ON MODEL OF CAPITALIST COUNTRY, AND BELYAK AND SEVOSTYANOV WERE GOING TO U.S. FOR WHAT WE CONSIDER NON-GOVERNMENTAL VISITS. CONSOFFS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IN SOVIET SYSTEM SUCH TRIPS MAY NOT BE NON-GOVERNMENTAL AS VIRTUALLY NOTHING IN USSR IS STRICTLY NON-GOVERNMENTAL, BUT U.S. VISA CATEGORIES ARE BASED ON U.S. SYSTEM.

5. CONSOFFS AGREED AT IPPOLITOV'S REQUEST TO REPORT HIS COMMENTS TO DEPARTMENT.

6. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS IT BE AUTHORIZED TO REPLY TO IPPOLITOV'S REQUEST FOR A VISAS FOR GOVERNMENT MINISTERS BY SAYING QUESTION IS UNDER CONSIDERATION. EMBASSY WILL THEN ENDEAVOR TO CALL TO DEPT'S ATTENTION COMVIS APPLICATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT MINISTERS, AND EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT CAN EXAMINE QUESTION ON CASE-BY - CASE BASIS BEFORE REACHING GENERAL DETERMINATION.

7. AS FOR IPPOLITOV'S REQUEST FOR A VISA FOR SEVOSTYANOV, WE BELIEVE DEPT IS IN BEST POSITION TO MAKE DETERMINATION ON BASIS ITS INFORMATION ABOUT NATURE OF MEETING HE WILL ATTEND. IF MEETING IS STRICTLY NON-GOVERNMENTAL, EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE IT SHOULD ISSUE A VISA IN ABSENCE ANY STATEMENT FROM MFA THAT SEVOSTYANOV WILL VISIT SOVIET DIPLOMATIC OR CONSULAR POSTS.

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